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**Newsletter**

**Number 30**

**23 November 2012**

**Website [www.matarau.school.nz](http://www.matarau.school.nz)**

**Phone / Fax (09) 433 5823 Email – [admin@matarau.school.nz](mailto:admin@matarau.school.nz)**



**Thanks**

.. To those assisted with this week's year 7 and 8 visit to Northland Polytechnic.

.. To those parents assisting their children with the preparation of their art portfolios. .. a reminder these are due at the office by 3:30 on Monday.

**People of the week**

.. Those who organised and participated in last weekend's horse trek fundraiser. .. and especially Mary Finlayson and Alina Murfitt.

.. Our year 7 and 8 students who mightily impressed Northland Polytech this week with their manners and thoughtful questions.

.. Mr Hampshire for sweeping outside the Junior area this week.

**Good luck**

.. To those year 7 and 8 students participating in next week's interschool athletics.

**Coming up this term**

27 November Year 7 and 8 Interschool Athletics (pp 29.11)  
28 November Whangarei Girls' High School orientation  
29 November Year 7 and 8 abseiling at Whangarei Falls  
1 December Home Garden judging  
3 December Year 1 to 3 disco (lunchtime)  
4 December Year 5 and 6 Interschool Athletics  
6 December School team athletics day  
7 December Year 4 to 8 disco (more to follow)  
11 December BoT meeting  
12 December Reports sent home  
13 December School Prize Giving  
18 December Final day of school

**School Contributions**

Those who opted for term payment of school contributions and activity fees will have received a request for their final instalment. **THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HAVE PAID ALREADY.**

Please forward payment as soon as possible and don't hesitate to contact us with any questions or to discuss alternative payment arrangements. **A small number of families also owe for activity or technology fees from earlier in the year and we are keen to receive these as soon as possible please.**

**Prize Giving**

Please keep the evening of Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December free for our annual prize giving. Prize Giving will start 7:00 pm (to be confirmed closer to the date) and will conclude approx 8.30pm with a supper. Prize Giving will be held outside this year weather permitting. Grandparents are welcome. Attendance is optional for 5 year olds.

### Art Scholarships (Years 4 to 8)

Portfolios are due Monday 26 November 3:30 PM. We hope to see a good number of entries in this competition.

**These are judged on the afternoon of the 26<sup>th</sup> and so they must be submitted by the 3:30 PM 26 November**



### Junior Disco

Bring your pyjamas and a gold coin donation on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December, Week 8 for a lunchtime disco for Years 1-3. Please bring your own lunch, as Monday lunches will not be running for the Years 1-3's on the 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### Senior Disco

Bring \$2 and plate of finger food per family, on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December, for a disco held for Years 4-8's, from 7-9pm. Parents can collect their children from the school hall.

### Leaving Books

You may be aware that it is a Matarau tradition for the Board of Trustees to present all Year 8 students with a leaving book. This week our Year 8 students received a book voucher to put towards a book of their choice. Thank you (in anticipation) parents for assisting in the purchase of a suitable book. The vouchers are redeemable at most book stores. Books are to be returned to school to be officially presented at prize giving on 13 December.

### Classes for 2013

Class lists for 2013 will be displayed on the hall notice board on the afternoon of 14 December.

### Drink Bottles

Please ensure your child brings a drink bottle to school each day to place on their desk. Water is best.

### School Cups

Please return school cups by 16 November for re-engraving. Please do not polish these - we will arrange this. Thanks!



### A chance to thank and farewell Mrs Bruce

Parents and former students are invited to a farewell morning tea to be held for Mrs Bruce on Wednesday 5 December. Mrs Bruce has made an impact on many children and families during her twelve years at Matarau School and we would like her to know just how much her efforts (and irrepressible energy) have been appreciated. If you think you can make it please give Helen a call next week.

### Interschool Athletics

.. will be held at Kensington Park on **Tuesday 27 November (years 7 and 8)** and on **Tuesday 4 December (years 5 and 6)**. A reminder that children will travel by car (thanks to those helping out with this) and will need to wear Matarau T-shirts and bring lunch, drinks, sunhats, sunblock and something warm to wear just in case. Please contact Mr D with any questions. Children can pick up a T-shirt and jacket from the school office if required. Please ensure consents are returned to school early next week.

### Parent Helpers Morning Tea

Parents / caregivers who have helped at school in any way this year are invited to a morning tea to be held in the staffroom on  
**Tuesday 11 December starting 10:30am.**

This is our chance to thank you for the difference you have made to our school.

**To help with catering please give Helen a call next week if you think you might be in attendance.**

### Kamo High School Team Triathlon

If your child is participating in this event (scheduled for 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM on 30 November - at K.H.S.) please ensure their consent is returned to school no later than this coming Monday. Any questions in the run up to this event to Mr D please.

### Class Placements 2013

*If your child(ren) will not be at Matarau school next year please let us know as soon as possible.*

### Year 7 and 8 Abseiling Consents (for 29.11)

... please ensure these have been returned to school by Monday (26<sup>th</sup>). Most grateful for parent assistance with transport and supervision. Any questions please to Mrs Donaldson or Mr D.

### Home Garden Programme

Please ensure the Consent to Visit Forms issued last week are returned by Monday. **Please note that gardens will not be visited if the Consent to Visit Form is not returned.**

The real challenge now is to make sure that gardens are looking fabulous by judging day on 1 December. Home Garden Booklets are due into the office by Monday also please. Judging criteria for gardens are as follows ..



Criteria	Points	Criteria	Points
Diary	6	Health of Plants	4
Layout (incl thinning, spacing and staking)	4	Varieties of Plants	4
Pest Control	4	Creativity / originality	4
Weed Control	4		30

To assist judges please ensure ..

- .. that you have tied a balloon to your gatepost
- .. that your garden is well sign posted
- .. that dogs are tied up

### The Mobile Ear Clinic

.. will be outside the Bush Road Medical Centre 8:30 to 3:30 Tuesday 4 December. No appointments necessary. Pre-schoolers welcome.

### Final word

Information Technology is impacting profoundly on almost every aspect of modern life. ... no less on education. It is hard to know how learning will look 5 years from now let alone 20. In what almost seems a frenzy by schools to be at the cutting edge of IT developments we are hearing of schools that are totally revolutionising the way they teach. All of sudden parents are being told that if their child does not have an iPad they will be hopelessly left behind in a world where the traditional ways of doing things no longer count for much. I think we should feel a little bit uneasy when the directions we are taking are not at least partially informed by what has gone before. It seems to me that more than any other generation we are assuming that the collective wisdom and experiences of those before us should have little part in shaping our world view. It is an absolute fact that the implications of this IT frenzy will not be known for many years to come. Already some researchers overseas are advising caution. It may seem old fashioned but at Matarau School we still believe that the most important piece of educational equipment in the classroom is the teacher and the most important dynamic is their relationship with the learner (and their parents too) .. the rest are simply accessories. This does not mean that IT does not have a part to play (in fact an important part) but let's keep things in perspective and move forward with caution.

Regards,  
Kevin Trehwella  
PRINCIPAL

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children, please support





### Never<sup>2</sup>Land 2012 Production

Here is your opportunity to preserve your memory of this years epic retelling of the rivalry between Peter Pan and Hook.



DVD's are now on order through the School office. Limited stock, first in first served. Cost \$15. Orders close 7<sup>th</sup> December 2012. DVD's will be sent home by the end of Week 9.

### Community Notices

**For Sale** - Jack Russell puppies. Ready for Christmas \$250. Ph Jenny 4355336 or 0273258617.

Ruatangata playcentre AGM Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 7.30pm, 26 Matarau Rd. All Welcome.

**For Sale: Lime**, great for the garden, lawns and paddocks - \$5.00 for a 10kg bag. ½ the price of retail shops. Phone Helen or William on 433 5512 to arrange delivery or pickup. This is a fundraising effort for William to go with the Boys & Girls High combined team to represent Northland at the Get2Go OPC final on Great Barrier Island.

**For Sale** – Sheep Manure. Fundraiser to go to Molesworth Station. Call Michelle Martin on 4335061 or see the TAG team at the Kamo Xmas Parade outside Hammer Hardware.

### **KAMO AMATEUR SWIMMING CLUB**

Kamo High School Pool, Wilkinson Ave, Kamo. *New members wanted.*

**Stroke improvement classes** - Monday & Friday afternoons from 4.30pm

*Swimmers must be reasonably confident in water and be able to swim 10m unaided.*

**For further enquiries contact Chris 433 5099 or Helen 433 5823 or Sharon 027 631 9361**

**NZ Badminton Academy** – Opportunities to play, learn and train with NZ Badminton Academy. All levels welcome. Held at 41 Porowini Ave, Morningside, \$450 per term for members or \$50 per term for non members. For more info contact Kaleb Cookson 0212503965 or info@NZBA.net.nz.

**A&P Summer Show** - Entries are now open for the A&P Summer Show on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2012. All pet calf, lamb or goat entries received before 16 November receive a free ticket to the Show! Entry forms will be can be downloaded from [www.summershow.co.nz](http://www.summershow.co.nz). Gate admission for the Show is \$5.00 per person, with under 5 year olds free again this year.

**The Suzie Moo Show** will be held at the Summer Show at Barge Showgrounds at 10.00am; 12.00 noon; 2.00pm and 4.00pm Saturday 8th December and Sunday 9th December. Have a go at milking a cow!

**Free 5 day School holidays learn-to-surf program for 11 to 17 year olds. Sandy Bay Tutukaka Coast**

Choose dates : Dec 17- 21 2012, or Jan 7-11, or 14-18, or 21-25 2013. Book now: Phone 434 4135 or email [surf@tutukakasurf.co.nz](mailto:surf@tutukakasurf.co.nz)

**NYT Production** – “The Blue Airplane” – 5<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> December 2012; for more info or tickets phone 438 4453 or email [nytproduction@gmail.com](mailto:nytproduction@gmail.com)

**Whangarei Academy of Gymnastics (WAGS)** has moved to the brand new ASB Arena on Park Ave, Kensington. We now have a lot more space, and so we can offer more classes. No more waiting lists! We offer a variety of classes, for all ages, toddlers, and all school ages, boys and girls. If you are interested, please ph our office on 09 4352990 or check out our new website [www.wags.org.nz](http://www.wags.org.nz)

**Donations wanted** for a Whangarei Family who lost all their belongings in a house fire early this month. Any donations would be appreciated. Please contact Melville & Ellis - 09 438 7022 for any further inquires.

### Fundraising

**STILL OUTSTANDING** - Chocolates and or Chocolate money was due back at school last week. Please return any unsold chocolate and monies from sales on Monday next week. Thank you for your support.

**Horse Trek** - A HUGE thank you to our Horse Trek organisers: Mary & Ken Finlayson, Alina & Justin Murfitt, Kym Hare and her mum Cheryl, Gina Bowering, Sue Woffindin, Shelley Trigg, Gina Murray and Emily Henderson



A Big thank you to ECOSSE for sponsoring the mobile eftpos machine for the School Ball and Horse Trek





## Matarau School Horse Trek



### **COMRIE PARK KINDERGARTEN** **GARAGE SALE/COMMUNITY DAY**

*Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2012*

*8:00am - 12pm at the Kindergarten,  
109 Matarau Rd*

*Garage sale items, Christmas raffle, face painting,  
pony rides, sausage sizzle and more...*

*Gold coin donation to raise funds to buy new  
resources for our Kindergarten. We'd love your  
support!*

*(Please bring along any items you wish to donate  
for our Garage Sale in the next few weeks and  
drop them into the Kindergarten.)*

*Thank you*

*Paula, Janet, Rachel and Amy*

## Senior School Careers Day at Northtec



*Hands on activity in  
the Hospitality Section.*



*Pizza and Chocolate Eclairs  
for lunch*

